CLAIMS

1.   A communications system, comprising:

a radio network coupled to a serving computer on a first network;

a mobile node coupled to the radio network by a wireless communication link;

a communication server computer linked to the serving computer, said communication server computer controlling the allocation of addresses for the mobile node and performing accounting functions for the first network, and;

a control message transmission on the first network comprising a data element that denotes the continuation of the mobile node's communication session on the first network.

2.   The communications system in Claim 1 wherein the control message includes a type field.

3.   The communications system in Claim 1 wherein the control message includes a length field.

4.   The communications system in Claim 1 wherein the control message includes a vendor-type field.

5.   The communications system in Claim 1 wherein the control message includes a field containing the data element.

6.   The communications system in Claim 1 wherein the serving computer is coupled to an Internet.

7.   The communications system in Claim 1 wherein the serving computer is coupled to a second network.

8.   The communication system in Claim 1 wherein the communication server computer will not change the mobile node's address on the foreign network after receiving the control message.

9.   The method of continuing a communication session on a communication system comprising the steps of:

transmitting a request message from a serving computer to a first serving computer, said request message contains a session continuation message; and

receiving the request message from said serving computer and maintaining an address allocation for a mobile node on the foreign network.

10.   The method of continuing a communication session in Claim 9 wherein the session continuation message is a data element in an accounting message.

11. The method of continuing a communication session in Claim 9 wherein the server computer continues accounting functions for an ongoing communication session in response to the request message.

12. The method of continuing a communication session in Claim 9 wherein the session continuation message includes a type data element.

13. The method of continuing a communication session in Claim 9 wherein the session continuation message includes a length data element.

14. The method of continuing a communication session in Claim 9 wherein the session continuation message includes a vendor-type data element.

15. The method of continuing a communication session in Claim 9 wherein the session continuation message includes an identifier data element.

16. The method of continuing a communication session in Claim 9 wherein the session continuation message includes a session continuation attribute data element.

17. The method of continuing a communication session in Claim 16 wherein the session continuation attribute is a data value in an accounting message.

18. A method for supporting communications on packet-based network comprising the steps of:

    receiving a continuation session message, and,

    continuing an accounting function a mobile node address on an ongoing communication session after receipt of the continuation session message.

19. The method for supporting communications of Claim 18 wherein the continuation session message includes a type data element.

20. The method for supporting communications of Claim 18 wherein the continuation session message includes a length data element.

21. The method for supporting communications of Claim 18 wherein the continuation session message includes a vendor-type data element.

22. The method for supporting communications of Claim 18 wherein the continuation session message includes an identifier data element.

23. The method for supporting communications of Claim 18 wherein the continuation session message includes a session continuation attribute data element.